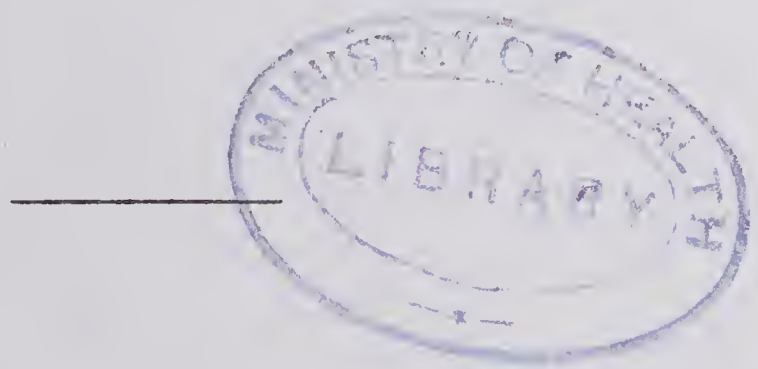


RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FLAXTON



Annual Reports

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SURVEYOR AND CHIEF

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1951



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FLAXTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman :

J. SHARP, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman :

W. H. SIMPSON

Health Committee

Members : H. MILNE (*Chairman*)

P. H. WHITFIELD, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman*)

F. M. BEANLAND

J. H. BROMLEY

H. B. BROOK, J.P.

G. FOSTER

L. HODGSON

J. S. IMISON

A. E. PLUMMER

J. R. ROBINSON

Mrs. M. M. STARKEY

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

J. A. FRASER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (*Acting*).

Senior Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time):

L. B. PARKER, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Certificates held:

Royal Sanitary Institute as

(a) Sanitary Inspector.

(b) Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

City and Guilds of London Finalist.

Certificates Building Construction, Technical Drawing, etc
Instructor, A.R.P.S.

Other Appointments held:

Surveyor.

Inspector under the Petroleum Acts.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors (Whole-time):

D. NURSE, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Certificates held:

Royal Sanitary Institute as

(a) Sanitary Inspector.

(b) Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

G. A. W. HEPPELL, M.C., C.R.S.I., A.I.Hsg.

Certificates held:

Royal Sanitary Institute as a Sanitary Inspector.
Institute of Housing.

Clerical Staff:

J. W. MEDD (*Chief Clerk*).

Miss J. SHEPHERD (*General Clerk*).

H. H. MILNER (*General Clerk*).

Miss O. WATSON (*Junior Clerk*).

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1951

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Flaxton Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour once again to submit to your Council the Annual Report for the year 1951. Due to difficulties which were quite unforeseen at the end of the last year, the appointment of the District Medical Officer had not been possible, necessitating my continuing to act as your advisory Medical Officer throughout the year.

As I stated in the last Report the distance between the County Hall and your area makes it necessary for me to rely to a very great extent upon information made available from your officials and your Health Department.

The year has not been noteworthy for any special problems of health and conditions in the district have not called for any particular comment. The vital statistics again compare favourably with the country as a whole and with similar districts generally.

Once again it has been my pleasure to give you such assistance as I have been able and I would like to thank the Council for your kindness and courtesy to me throughout the year and to express my appreciation of the help extended to me by both the Council and your officials.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. FRASER,

County Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Social Conditions

The Flaxton Rural District is situated in the North Riding of the County of York. Five Rural Districts and the City of York abut its boundaries, Easingwold to the North and North-West, Malton to the North and North-East, Pocklington to the East, Derwent to the South-East, Nidderdale on the West and South-West and the City of York on the South and West. The area is almost wholly situated on the Plain of York bounded by the foothills of the Wolds on the East and the Howardian Hills on the North. The district is, therefore, quite flat in character. Adequate supplies of water are not found in the district and water has to be purchased in bulk. Sewerage in the area is costly, pumping being required on the majority of schemes due to the lack of natural fall in the land.

There are 24 parishes in the area, which is mainly agricultural in character, although the parishes nearer to the City of York are largely residential.

There is a certain amount of industry in the area, comprising scientific instrument making, tanneries, brickyards, printing and cabinet-making and converted hangars which are used for light engineering and the manufacture of concrete components for houses. The industry in the area supplies employment for a large number of residents in the area and also for many residents in the City of York, whilst, conversely, many residents in the area find employment in the City.

Statistics

The Vital Statistics for the year are set out in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. Statistics for previous years are given for comparative purposes.

The Birth Rate in the area is slightly higher than for 1950 but remains at a level appreciably lower than in the years following the War. It is lower than the average for the country as a whole. There is a fall in the number of Stillbirths, the number being lower than the average for preceding years.

The Death Rate has increased during 1951 above that of the preceding three years, but is still below the average for the country as a whole. A table of the causes of death is set out later in the report, but there is nothing to which particular attention need be drawn.

There have been two cases of Maternal Mortality out of a total of 288 births. This is considerably in excess of the average for England and Wales, which is one out of every 1,250 births. The first cause of death was shock and hæmorrhage and the second death occurred under general anæsthesia during forceps delivery.

The Infant Mortality Rate remains at a comparatively low level and there are no special circumstances requiring comment.

The general state of health of the District remains satisfactory and no other comment appears necessary on the vital statistics or causes of death which are set out hereunder.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population of the Rural District—20,440.

LIVE BIRTHS:		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Population</i>
1947	Legitimate	193	175	368	—	—
	Illegitimate	7	8	15	383	23.15
1948	Legitimate	151	146	297	—	—
	Illegitimate	9	9	18	315	15.83
1949	Legitimate	158	132	290	—	—
	Illegitimate	8	7	15	305	14.66
1950	Legitimate	154	126	273	—	—
	Illegitimate	4	3	7	280	13.74
1951	Legitimate	131	134	265	—	—
	Illegitimate	10	8	18	283	13.84

STILL BIRTHS:

1947	Legitimate	6	5	11	—	—
	Illegitimate	—	1	1	12	—
1948	Legitimate	5	3	8	—	—
	Illegitimate	1	1	2	10	—
1949	Legitimate	—	5	5	—	—
	Illegitimate	—	—	—	5	0.24
1950	Legitimate	5	2	7	—	—
	Illegitimate	—	—	—	7	0.34
1951	Legitimate	2	2	4	—	—
	Illegitimate	—	1	1	5	0.24

DEATHS:				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population</i>
1947	...	...	...	90	83	173	10.46
1948	...	...	...	95	88	183	8.19
1949	...	...	...	97	97	194	9.31
1950	...	...	...	99	81	180	8.83
1951	...	...	...	111	96	207	10.12

MATERNAL MORTALITY:

1947	...	...	Nil		
1948	...	...	Maternal Causes	...	1
			Rate per 1,000 births...		3.08
1949	...	...	Nil		
1950	...	...	Nil		
1951	...	...	Maternal Causes	...	2
			Rate per 1,000 births...		7.06

INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths of Infants under 1 year):

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
All Infants per 1,000					
Live Births ...	31.33	34.92	55.73	17.86	24.71
Legitimate Infants					
per 1,000 Live					
Legitimate Births	32.60	33.67	51.72	18.17	26.39
Illegitimate Infants					
per 1,000 Live Il-					
legitimate Births	Nil	55.55	133.33	Nil	Nil

Table of Comparative Rates

BIRTH RATE:	1937	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales ...	14.90	20.50	17.90	16.70	15.80	15.50
Flaxton R.D. ...	18.40	23.15	15.83	14.66	13.74	13.84

DEATH RATE:

England and Wales ...	12.40	12.00	10.80	11.70	11.60	12.50
Flaxton R.D. ...	9.80	10.46	8.19	9.31	8.83	10.12

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE:

England and Wales ...	3.65	1.17	1.02	0.98	0.86	0.79
Flaxton R.D. ...	3.89	Nil	3.08	Nil	Nil	7.06

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

England and Wales ...	58.00	41.00	34.00	32.00	29.80	29.60
Flaxton R.D. ...	54.40	31.33	34.92	55.73	17.86	24.71

CAUSES OF DEATH

	1947		1948		1949		1950		1951	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	4	2	3	2	2	2	—	3	2
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	—	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic diseases ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
4. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
8. Measles ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and par. diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm,										
10. stomach ...	1	1	5	5	5	1	1	4	7	—
11. lung, bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	1
12. breast ...	—	2	—	6	—	3	—	1	—	1
13. uterus ...	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	10	15	5	13	6	9	10	10	7
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
16. Diabetes ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	12	11	6	9	10	12	11	12	10	19
18. Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	8	13	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	3
20. Other heart diseases ...	29	23	31	27	30	30	18	15	23	10
21. Other circulatory diseases ...	4	2	3	8	3	7	7	3	1	11
22. Influenza ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	4
23. Pneumonia ...	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	—
24. Bronchitis ...	9	—	6	2	4	1	5	6	6	5
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	4	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	3	1	4	4	—	1	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
31. Congenital malforms. ...	3	4	7	2	3	4	1	1	—	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	7	11	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	3	1	—	2	—	2	1	3	—
34. All other accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	4
35. Suicide ...	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
37. All other causes ...	11	14	9	16	13	23	—	—	—	—
	90	83	95	88	97	97	99	81	111	96

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Details of Officers are listed at the beginning of the Report. No change in the staff occurred during the year.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological and chemical examinations of milk, water and effluents are carried out for the Council by the County Public Health Laboratory, Messrs. T. Fairley & Partner, of Leeds, and the Laboratory of the Rivers Board at Wakefield. Dr. S. Goodman Platts, of the York County Hospital, has always been helpful to the Council in examining specimens on their behalf.

Ambulance

The North Riding County Council administer the ambulance and other health services in the area.

The Ambulance Station serving the area is situate at Haxby. Telephone Number—day or night—York 8181.

In case of difficulty telephone Easingwold 324 (daytime).

Except in cases of emergency, requests for ambulance will only be accepted from Medical Practitioners, Matrons or Almoners of Hospitals, Nurses at Clinics (acting for a Medical Officer) or duly authorised officers of the County Council Health Department.

District Nurses

A District Nursing Service covers the area and the Nurses and the districts they cover are as follows :—

Clifton Without and Rawcliffe.

Nurse Southam, 26 Melton Avenue, Clifton.
Telephone : York 54714.

Haxby, Wigginton and Skelton.

Nurse Lealman, Station Road, Haxby.
Telephone : York 8233.

Huntington, Earswick and New Earswick.

Nurse Atkinson and Nurse Leeming, 11 Rowan Place, New Earswick.
Telephone : York 8280.

Buttercrambe, Bossall, Claxton, Harton, Heworth, Holtby, Gate Helmsley, Upper Helmsley, Osbaldwick, Sand Hutton, Stockton-on-Forest and Warthill.

Nurse Fox, 18 Galtres Road, Stockton Lane, Heworth.
Telephone : York 53449.

Flaxton, Strensall, Towthorpe and Lilling.

Nurse Henderson, 7 Barney Cottages, Flaxton.

Telephone : Flaxton Moor 265.

Domestic Help Service

Arrangements for domestic help can be made through the County Area Health Office, Manor Road, Easingwold.

Telephone : Easingwold 324.

Infant Welfare Centres

Infant Welfare Centres are open throughout the district at the places and times set out :—

The Social Hall, Bell Farm, Huntingdon Road.

Alternate Wednesdays at 1-30 p.m.

The Memorial Hall, Huntingdon (Mobile Clinic).

Alternate Wednesdays at 12-0 p.m.

The Folk Hall, New Earswick.

Alternate Wednesdays at 12-0 p.m.

The Village Hall, Stockton-on-Forest (Mobile Clinic).

Alternate Fridays at 12-0 p.m.

The Parish Hall, Strensall.

First Thursday in each month at 12-30 p.m.

The Recreation Hall, Wigginton.

Alternate Tuesdays at 12-0 p.m.

The Church Hall, Clifton.

Alternate Fridays at 12-0 p.m.

Church Hall, Osballdwick (Mobile Clinic).

Alternate Thursdays at 12-30 p.m.

British Legion Hut, Skelton.

Every 4 weeks commencing Wednesday, 31/1/51, at 12-0 p.m.

*Note :—*Separate ante-natal clinics are not now held, but advice on these matters may be obtained by attendance at the Mobile Clinic at the above centres.

Maternity Hospitals

Admissions are arranged by a person's own Doctor. Booking clinics held each Friday at 9-0 a.m. at 24 St. Saviourgate, York.

Mental Health Clinics

Visits can be made by appointment at either of the following Mental Health Clinics :—

The Clifton Hospital, Shipton Road, Clifton.

Thursdays at 12-30 p.m., by appointment.

The York County Hospital, Monkgate, York.

Mondays and Fridays at 12-0 p.m., by appointment.

Registrar of Births and Deaths

The Registrar of Births and Deaths is Mr. R. G. Denton. He attends at the Council's Offices in Bootham and at home at Haxby on the following hours :—

12 *Rose Rae Terrace, Station Road, Haxby.* (Tel. : York 8420.)
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-0 to 7-0 p.m.

62a *Bootham, York.*

Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 6-0 to 7-0 p.m.

Skin Clinic

Clinics are held every afternoon between 1-30 p.m. and 5-0 p.m. at the City General Hospital, Haxby Road, York.

Tuberculosis Clinic

A clinic is held at 11 Castlegate, York, on the second and fourth Thursdays in each month at 10-0 a.m.

V.D. Clinic

Persons requiring advice or treatment can attend at the York County Hospital, Monkgate, York, on the following days and times :—

Males :

Mondays, 12 to 4 p.m.

Thursdays, 5 to 7 p.m.

Fridays, 10 to 11 a.m.

Females and Children :

Tuesdays, 12 to 4 p.m.

Wednesdays, 112-30 to 1-30 p.m.

Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Set out overleaf are tables showing the infectious diseases which occurred during the year and those notified during previous years for comparative purposes.

As will be seen, the incidence of infectious disease shows little variation from previous years. The case of malaria notified referred to a serviceman from a Camp in the area who had contracted the disease overseas.

It is particularly gratifying to note that no cases of acute poliomyelitis occurred during the year, although a child who contracted the disease in 1949 died in hospital during the year.

No cases of diphtheria occurred during the year and the number of cases of scarlet fever notified showed a considerable reduction.

On the whole it is pleasing to report a satisfactory year, comparatively free from ill-health.

Comparative Incidence of Infectious Disease

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	43	61	42	65	29
Diphtheria	5	3	—	1	—
Enteric fever	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	3	5	—	1	5
Erysipelas	2	5	12	2	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	3	1	2	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	1	—	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	3	—	2	14	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	203	54	348	210	252
Whooping cough	55	46	122	44	123

TUBERCULOSIS

I am again able to report a further drop in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified during 1951, the number having become progressively lower each year for the past four years.

If this progressive reduction in the number of new cases is to be maintained it is imperative that local authorities generally go forward with the improvement of housing conditions and, particularly, that they should give priority to tubercular cases where this will limit the spread of the disease or be of assistance to the patient.

Tuberculosis

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 to 35 years ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35 to 45 years ...	†2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45 to 55 years ...	—	*1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 65 years ...	*3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	6	2	—	—	3	2	—	—

*—4 Patients in Clifton Hospital. †—1 Services at Strensall Camp.

Incidence of Tuberculosis

Year		New Cases			Deaths		
		Res- piratory	Non-res- piratory	Total	Res- piratory	Non-res- piratory	Total
1947	...	18	5	23	4	0	4
1948	...	27	14	41	5	1	6
1949	...	13	5	18	4	1	5
1950	...	13	3	16	2	0	2
1951	...	6	2	8	5	0	5

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Year 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit again to you my Report upon the work of my Department for the past year.

The Council have continued to make progress in the fields of housing, sewage disposal and water supply and details are set out later in the Report under these headings.

I trust that the information contained in the Report will be of assistance and value to Members of the Council both as a record of work accomplished and a reminder of the work still to be done.

I would like to express my appreciation of the unfailing courtesy accorded to me by the Council, of the help and assistance I have received from my staff and the co-operation of the departments of the Clerk and Chief Financial Officer, without which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to report progress or achievement.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. PARKER,
Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector.

STATISTICS

The following table sets out the parishes comprising the area, together with the acreage, number of dwellinghouses and the estimated population. The total population for the area is the actual number recorded at the Census taken during the year, although the figures for the parishes are estimated pending receipt of more detailed information.

The second table shows the average number of persons per house according to the Censuses taken between 1901 and 1951. It will be seen that the figure has not varied a great deal over the past twenty years.

Sixty-four new houses were completed during the year and none was demolished or closed down. Demolition Orders were made, however, on four houses, but these were allowed to remain occupied under licence approved by the Ministry of Health.

1951 Annual Report

	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>Estimated Population</i>	<i>Acreage</i>
Bossall-with-Buttercrambe ...	34	130	2,691
Claxton	45	172	838
Clifton without	962	3,684	972
Earswick	73	279	1,111
Flaxton	95	363	1,865
Gate Helmsley	50	191	497
Harton	24	91	2,004
Haxby	677	2,592	2,206
Heworth without	154	587	854
Holtby	30	115	901
Huntington	981	3,755	1,850
Lilling	51	196	1,769
Murton	114	436	844
New Earswick	618	2,355	784
Osballdwick	285	1,085	645
Rawcliffe	271	1,032	784
Sand Hutton	48	185	2,242
Skelton	128	489	2,428
Stockton-on-Forest	155	592	3,268
Strensall	343	1,306	2,909
Towthorpe	35	136	1,075
Upper Helmsley	12	47	833
Warthill	47	181	1,004
Wigginton	115	441	1,880
	<hr/> 5,347 <hr/>	<hr/> 20,440 <hr/>	<hr/> 36,254 <hr/>

Estimated Number of Persons per Dwellinghouse

1901 Census ...	...	4.70 persons per house			
1911 „	...	4.39	„	„	„
1921 „	...	4.29	„	„	„
1931 „	...	3.83	„	„	„
1939 „	...	3.75	„	„	„ (Nat. Registration)
1949 (Estimated)	...	3.75	„	„	„
1950 „	...	3.85	„	„	„
1951 Census ...	...	3.81	„	„	„

Water Supplies

The year which has ended might be termed the “consolidating” stage in the Council’s programme for providing a piped water service to every inhabited property in the area.

1950 saw the completion of the laying of the new mains in the area, bringing the total to 61 miles of mains. During 1951 work proceeded on the construction of the water tower at Harton, and the chlorination of the mains at Holtby and Warthill was completed. A permanent supply of water was provided to the parishes of Bossali and Harton with the completion of the bulk supply from the Ryedale Joint Water Board.

It will be seen from the table set out overleaf that 1207 properties were connected to the Council’s mains during the year. Sixty-four of these were new houses and the remainder were existing houses which had not previously had a piped supply in the house. Only 5.22% of the total properties in the area remain to be provided with a piped supply of water and it is hoped that, during the coming year, many of these outstanding properties will be provided with such a supply.

The provision of a piped supply of water on the highway nearest to every inhabited property in the area is a very fine achievement and marks the culmination of many years of endeavour by the Council. It now remains for us to ensure that every dwelling-house in the area has a piped supply into the house, thus overcoming the necessity for some persons of having to drink water from suspicious sources, such as shallow wells, or having to carry water in pails and churns from wells or stand-pipes.

Routine sampling of the mains has taken place during the year and samples have been taken from five wells. As is the case in the majority of shallow wells in the area, all five were found to be quite unfit for drinking purposes. *The unsatisfactory results obtained on samples from the mains supply were all from mains during chlorination.* Chlorination was continued until satisfactory results were obtained.

It is gratifying to report that no serious breakages of mains occurred during the year and I feel sure that the Council's decision to lay asbestos cement mains will prove to be a sound one.

The water supply in the area is now obtained from two sources, namely the Ryedale Joint Water Board and the York Waterworks Company. These supplies are inclined to hardness and no plumbo-solvent action takes place. The supplies during the year have been satisfactory both as to quantity and quality.

I feel that I would like to express, on the Council's behalf, appreciation of the ready assistance given by the Rural District Councils of Pocklington and Malton in providing temporary supplies of water during the period before the bulk supply from the Ryedale Board was received.

Set out below is a statement of the samples taken for analysis and the results, together with copies of specimen reports.

Examinations of Samples of Water

<i>Nature of Sample.</i>	<i>Samples taken.</i>		<i>Satis.</i>		<i>Unsatis.</i>	
	<i>Chem.</i>	<i>Bact.</i>	<i>Chem.</i>	<i>Bact.</i>	<i>Chem.</i>	<i>Bact.</i>
*Mains supply ...	4	59	4	37	0	22
Well supply ...	5	5	0	0	5	5

* As stated above unsatisfactory results in the case of new mains were remedied by further chlorination.

9th August, 1951

Source of Supply :—York Waterworks Company

Source of Sample :—Parish of Stockton-on-Forest.

Appearance : Clear and bright. Odour on warming : None.

Colour of 2 ft. column (Lovibond Units) :—

Sediment : None. Reaction : pH=7.7

Action on bright service lead during 12 hours.....None.

The sample contains :—

		<i>Grains per Gallon.</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Total solids, dried at 100°C.	...	26.88	38.40
Chlorides, equivalent to chlorine	...	1.96	2.80
Nitrates, equivalent to nitrogen	...	0.14	0.20
Nitrates, equivalent to nitrogen	...	nil	nil
Free and saline ammonia	... ..	0.0003	0.0001
Albuminoid ammonia	... ..	0.0011	0.0016
Oxidation demand during 4 hours at 26.7°C. from :—			
potassium permanganate	... ..	0.028	0.040
sodium hypochlorite	... ..	—	—
Metallic contamination	... ..	nil	nil
Hardness (Clark Degrees) :—			
Temporary, removable by boiling		11.8	16.8
Permanent after boiling	... ..	3.6	5.2
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total ...	15.4	22.0
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Average number of bacteria growing on nutrient agar
after 72 hours incubation at 20°C., per 1 ml. ... —

Average number of bacteria growing on nutrient agar
after 72 hours incubation at 37°C., per 1 ml. ... —

*Coliform bacteria after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.,
per 100 ml. —

*Type :—

Observations :—

According to the above results, the present condition of this
water is satisfactory for public supply.

13th August, 1951

Source of Supply :—Ryedale Joint Board.

Source of Sample :—Parish of Flaxton.

Appearance : Clear and bright. Odour on warming : None.

Colour of 2 ft. column (Lovibond Units) :—

Sediment : None. Reaction : pH=7.7

Action on bright service lead during 1½ hours.....None.

The sample contains :—

		<i>Grains per Gallon.</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Total solids, dried at 100°C.	...	28.84	41.20
Chlorides, equivalent to chlorine	...	1.89	2.70
Nitrates, equivalent to nitrogen	...	0.37	0.53
Nitrites, equivalent to nitrogen	...	nil	nil
Free and saline ammonia	... ..	0.0003	0.0004
Albuminoid ammonia	... ..	0.0011	0.0016
Oxidation demand during 4 hours at 26.7°C. from :—			
potassium permanganate	... ..	0.003	0.011
sodium hypochlorite	... ..	—	—
Metallic contamination	... ..	nil	nil
Hardness (Clark Degrees) :—			
Temporary, removable by boiling		15.1	21.6
Permanent after boiling	... ..	4.0	5.7
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total ...	19.1	27.3
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Average number of bacteria growing on nutrient agar after 72 hours incubation at 20°C., per 1 ml. ... —

Average number of bacteria growing on nutrient agar after 72 hours incubation at 37°C., per 1 ml. ... —

*Coliform bacteria after 48 hours incubation at 37°C., per 100 ml. —

*Type :—

Observations :—

According to the above results, the present condition of this water is satisfactory for public supply.

TABLE SHOWING WATER SUPPLY POSITION IN EACH PARISH

Parish	Total Houses	Total Pop-ulation	Piped Water Supply								Houses supp. by	
			York Waterworks Co.				Ryedale Water Board				Shal-low wells	Bore-holes
			Direct to Hse.		Stand-pipe		Direct to Hse.		Stand-pipe			
			House	Pop.	House	Pop.	House	Pop.	House	Pop.		
			House	Pop.	House	Pop.	House	Pop.	House	Pop.		
Bossall with Buttercrambe	34	130	-	-	-	-	34	130	-	-	-	-
Claxton ...	45	172	-	-	-	-	43	170	-	-	2	-
Clifton without ...	962	3,684	962	3,684	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earswick ...	73	279	73	279	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flaxton ...	95	363	-	-	-	-	61	233	24	91	10	-
Gate Helmsley ...	50	191	-	-	-	-	46	185	-	-	4	-
Harton ...	24	91	-	-	-	-	20	77	-	-	4	-
Haxby ...	677	2,592	667	2,552	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-
Heworth without...	154	587	154	587	-	-	18	69	-	-	-	-
Holtby ...	30	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Huntington ...	981	3,755	981	3,755	-	-	32	122	15	57	4	-
Lillings Ambo ...	51	196	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Murton ...	114	436	93	354	8	30	-	-	-	-	13	-
New Earswick ...	618	2,355	618	2,355	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oswaldwick ...	285	1,085	285	1,085	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rawcliffe ...	271	1,032	268	1,021	3	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sand Hutton ...	48	185	-	-	-	-	43	164	-	-	5	-
Skelton ...	128	489	79	302	26	99	-	-	-	-	19	4
Stockton-on-Forest ...	155	592	114	435	21	80	-	-	-	-	20	-
Strensall ...	343	1,306	310	1,187	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	-
Towthorpe ...	35	136	35	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upper Helmsley ...	12	47	-	-	-	-	8	30	-	-	4	-
Warthill ...	47	181	-	-	-	-	29	111	-	-	18	-
Wigginton ...	115	441	95	363	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-
TOTAL	5,347	20,440	4,734	18,095	58	220	334	1,287	39	148	178	4

Percentage Analysis of Water Supplies

Houses with public mains supply direct to house	...	94.78%
" " " " " by stand-pipe	...	1.81%
	TOTAL	96.59%
<hr/>		
Houses with other sources of supply	... ... ...	3.41%
		100.00%
<hr/>		

Metallic Contamination

There seems to be evidence of an increasing tendency for piped water supplies to absorb metals from the pipes conveying the water and also to be rather more corrosive than seems to have been the case for past years. One or two instances have come to light of the comparatively high absorption of copper from copper pipes which does not seem to be clearly accounted for by the newness of the material. It is also disconcerting to find odd instances of perforation of galvanised iron water containers of various types within a comparatively short time of being fixed. One is inclined to think immediately of galvanic action being set up but it may well be that this may not necessarily prove to be the cause.

The necessity might arise for much closer attention to be given to this problem and care exercised to keep a check on metals' absorption in water both from the economic point of view and the possible effect upon the consumers.

Perhaps the standard practice today of chlorinating supplies has no bearing upon the matter, but it is a factor which might profitably be investigated. It may, of course, be nothing more than some peculiarity in present-day methods of manufacture, but, as I have previously stated, future experience may warrant some careful investigation into this subject.

Drainage and Sewerage

It is with pleasure that I am able to record that the year under review showed further progress in the Council's programme for providing proper and adequate sewerage and sewage disposal facilities to the villages and groups of properties not at present served.

Approval was given during the year by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the Council's schemes for the parishes of Stockton-on-Forest and Flaxton. Consideration was still being given by the Ministry to schemes for the parishes of Gate Helmsley and Lilling, both of these being joint schemes with neighbouring authorities.

Contracts were signed during the year for the following schemes and progress was made as indicated :—

1. Mill Lane, Wigginton, sewer extension. Cost, £2,653.
This extension of 597 yds. of 9 ins. sewer and 220 yds. of 6 ins. sewer was completed during the year in spite of difficulties experienced due to the nature of the soil.
2. Sewers and sewage disposal works, Claxton. £5,400 3s. 6d.
Work commenced on laying the sewers.
3. Sewers and sewage disposal works, Flaxton. £12,067 9s. 0d.
Work commenced on laying the sewer.

No extensions have taken place at any of the existing works, although two new distributors have been placed on order with a view to improving the effluent from the Haxby disposal works.

As will be seen from the table following, 79% of the properties in the area are drained to properly constructed sewage disposal works. The remainder are served by the old village sewers, cesspools and other means.

The schemes at present in hand in the parishes of Claxton, Flaxton, Stockton-on-Forest and Gate Helmsley will considerably increase this percentage and will enable residents of houses in these parishes to provide themselves with the modern sanitary fittings which are such necessary adjuncts to modern life and which, with the consequent disappearance of privies and the like, will be a contribution to the maintenance of a high standard of health in the district.

During the year 49 of the 64 new houses erected in the area were connected to the Council's sewers and 15 existing properties were also connected.

Of the 15 houses completed during the year and not connected to the Council's sewers, 12 were Council houses provided with temporary drainage awaiting a sewerage scheme being constructed, two were privately built houses on isolated sites, provided with cesspools, and one a privately built house temporarily drained awaiting the completion of a Council sewer, work on which is in hand.

Set out below is a table showing the position with regard to sewage disposal in each of the parishes in the Council's area, and an analysis of the methods of disposal.

Methods of Disposal—Percentage Analysis

Properties connected to proper sewerage and sewage disposal treatment plants :—

(a) Via Council's sewers to Council's disposal works	... ..	45.4%
(b) Via Council's sewers to York City sewers	...	23.3%
(c) Drained to private works producing a satisfactory effluent	... ..	10.3%
Total		79.0%

Properties connected to other means of disposal :—

(a) To old village sewers discharging to water-courses	... ..	6.2%
(b) To cesspools, etc.	... ..	14.8%
Total		21.0%

Sewage Disposal

	Total Houses	Council's Sewers & Works	York City Sewer	Private S.D. Works	Old Village Sewers	Cesspools Water-courses etc.
Bossall with Buttercrambe	34	—	—	—	—	34
Claxton... ..	45	—	—	—	38	7
Clifton	962	16	938	—	—	8
Earswick	73	33	—	—	30	10
Flaxton	95	—	—	—	42	53
Gate Helmsley...	50	—	—	—	33	17
Harton	24	—	—	—	18	6
Haxby	677	566	—	—	30	81
Heworth without	154	56	60	—	—	38
Holtby	30	—	—	—	13	17
Huntington	981	894	—	—	10	77
Lilling	51	—	—	—	18	33
Murton	114	74	—	—	—	40
New Earswick ...	618	69	—	549	—	—
Osbalwick	285	141	101	—	—	43
Rawcliffe	271	99	147	—	—	25
Sand Hutton ...	48	—	—	—	40	8
Skelton	128	105	—	—	—	23
Stockton-on-Forest ...	155	—	—	—	40	115
Strensall	343	330	—	—	—	13
Towthorpe	35	—	—	—	—	35
Upper Helmsley	12	—	—	—	—	12
Warthill	47	—	—	—	—	47
Wigginton	115	47	—	—	19	49
TOTAL	5,347	2,430	1,246	549	331	791

Maintenance

The maintenance of the various disposal works, being eight separate sewage disposal plants involving some eleven pumping stations and twenty-two separate pumping units, has continued although labour difficulties have arisen from time to time.

No particular problems have arisen during the year but the distributors on some of the installations are not operating as efficiently as they should and are showing evidence of corrosion and wear. On the whole the effluents produced have been satisfactory although at Haxby and Strensall they are poor, the former due partly to overloading of the works and the difficulty of coping with the trade wastes which are received into the scheme in a comparatively high proportion to the domestic sewage treated, and in the latter, to the age of the works and their need for re-designing together also with a certain amount of overloading.

The continued erection of properties in the area year by year is adding to the quantity of sewage which has to be dealt with at some of the other works and the question of extensions will need to be given consideration in the not too distant future.

There have been one or two further cases of road settlement in one particular parish where the sub-soil comprises a particularly active running sand. This has been due to infiltration of sand into the butt-jointed old tile surface water sewer running along the village street and also to foul water house connection drains which have settled and allowed infiltration of sand into the foul water sewer. The surface water sewer, as reported to the Council, should in due course be relaid, but in view of the nature of the ground it will be very costly and should be undertaken, if circumstances permit, during a very dry summer.

It is not always clear whether or not excavations made by public utility undertakings may not have some bearing upon the movement of the sub-soil and subsequently the foul water drains.

Public Cleansing

A table is given below showing the refuse collection service throughout the area and the method of disposal. A further extension of the scheme took place during the year, the village of Warthill, comprising 30 properties, being included in the Council's direct labour service.

86% of the properties in the area are now provided with a weekly collection of refuse and salvage and 3.3% of the properties with a monthly collection of salvage only.

Refuse Collection

Parish	Type of Collection	No. of Properties	Population	Means of Disposal
				Controlled tipping at
Claxton	Direct Labour	38	145	Towthorpe
Clifton	" "	953	3,644	Skelton
Earswick	" "	53	202	Towthorpe
Gate Helmsley ...	" "	46	175	Towthorpe
Haxby	Private Contract	658	2,514	Haxby
Heworth without	Direct Labour	149	566	Towthorpe
Holtby	" "	19	72	Towthorpe
Huntington	Private Contract	951	3,633	Haxby
Murton	Direct Labour	109	415	Towthorpe
New Earswick ...	Private Contract	606	2,305	Haxby
Osballdwick	Direct Labour	274	1,043	Skelton
Rawcliffe	" "	233	887	Skelton
Sand Hutton	" "	32	135	Towthorpe
Skelton	" "	100	382	Skelton
Strensall	" "	260	991	Towthorpe
Warthill	" "	30	127	Towthorpe
Wigginton	Private Contract	86	330	Haxby
	TOTAL ...	4,597	17,566	

Salvage

A table is given below setting out the amount of salvage disposed of by the Council during the year and its value. Market prices tended to rise during the year, particularly the price of waste paper, which reached the highest level since the War. The value of waste paper sold in 1951 was almost treble the value in 1950.

It does seem possible that the peak may have been reached in the prices of salvageable materials and there may be some reduction and stabilisation during the coming year.

The kitchen waste service has continued during the year to produce a certain amount of revenue in addition to its primary purpose of contributing to the feeding-stuffs position in the country. We have not had any particular complaints during the year although many difficulties are associated with this type of collection, particularly during the Summer months. It should be noted that against the revenue from kitchen waste, as set out below, should be offset expenditure on the provision of bins.

Salvage Disposed of during 1951

<i>Material</i>	<i>Weight</i>				<i>Value</i>		
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Paper	66	14	3	0	1,095	16	10
Woollens		2	3	7	25	15	0
Rags	3	2	1	0	108	16	11
Bagging... ..		15	2	0	12	11	6
Carpets	1	2	3	0	6	3	6
Hair		1	0	14	1	11	6
Flock				21		10	0
Kitchen waste	60	0	0	0	140	0	0
(Estimated)							
TOTAL ...					1,391	5	3

Controlled Tipping

Refuse is disposed of in the area by means of tipping on low-lying land. Three sites are used by the Council, one at Skelton to serve the West side of the District, one at Towthorpe to serve the East and North of the District and one at Haxby to serve the centre. The tip situate at Usher Lane, Haxby, as mentioned in a previous report, was not ideally placed, being rather close to residential property, and during the year tipping ceased there. The Council were fortunate in obtaining a lease on land on the Haxby Moor and this has avoided long journeys to other tips with consequent increase in cost and disruption of the collection time schedule.

There have been no complaints as to the tips at Skelton and Towthorpe although shortage of labour has meant that work on the maintenance of the tips has been rather irregular. To keep tips in ideal condition an abundance of material for covering and a good labour force is essential; cost in this connection is, of course, the all important factor.

Trade Wastes

The disposal of trade wastes in rural areas is often a serious problem. It frequently occurs that some small industry may become established with no problem of trade waste, merely requiring facilities for normal domestic sewage. In granting approval both under the Streets and Building Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning Act, which approval may in any event be difficult to withhold, it does not seem easy to control the ultimate development and expansion of the factory.

The growth of industrial premises of this kind may ultimately lead to a request for facilities for trade waste disposal which can present to an authority a very serious problem, more particularly in that the quantity of trade waste may be high in proportion to the quantity of domestic sewage being treated in a restricted area. The powers possessed by a local authority in cases of this kind are not very clear and what attitude is reasonable in such circumstances is open to doubt. It is generally held by industrial concerns that local authorities should be prepared to make suitable and adequate provision and not expect them to carry out full treatment to the satisfaction of the Rivers Board as individual trading concerns and it would be interesting to have some expert opinion on problems of this kind.

It may also happen that a light engineering industry, without the knowledge of the local authority, may set up plants producing industrial wastes such as chromium plating, with disastrous results on the authority's efforts to produce sound and satisfactory effluents in their sewage disposal works.

Such problems as these can result, with no fault upon the local authority, in effluents being discharged into rivers which are far from likely to reach the standards fixed for discharge.

Surface Water and Flood Water Disposal

The abnormally heavy rains in the Autumn created problems in connection with the flooding of the area in many districts. In one or two cases flood water entered the houses, whilst in many others the houses were surrounded in part or in whole by flood water varying in depth between one and two feet.

It is probably the proper view that very abnormal rainfall resulting in flooding for a temporary period is one for which the local authority cannot be expected to be responsible, and, of course, in many cases it would be quite impracticable to make any provision which would avoid it.

Presumably, however, the local authority should ensure that surface water sewers in their ownership and control are as far as possible kept free with their inlets and outlets unobstructed. Presumably, too, the local authority may be prepared to carry out works to provide relief and to prevent a recurrence where this is practical and where the relief obtained justifies the expenditure.

A more serious problem which faces local authorities in connection with heavy rainfall is the quantity of surface water which gains access to the foul water sewers. This may well result in sewage, necessarily very diluted, intermingling with flood water, which is

most undesirable. In flat country, where all sewage is invariably pumped, the provision of normal storm overflows is in many cases impracticable and storm water balancing tanks are exceedingly costly.

The infiltration of surface water into foul water sewers where separate systems are provided is difficult to understand and presents a very great problem in checking and locating the points of entry. Undoubtedly many property owners unhesitatingly discharge land tiles and other surface water drains from their houses into foul water drains in their gardens without either the knowledge or consent of the local authority. Inspection chambers are altered and lowered to conceal them in the gardens and these infringements are difficult to locate.

The existing law which gives the owner of property a right of connection to foul water drainage for surface water disposal in the absence of surface water sewerage is, in my view, in need of revision. All land is normally adequately provided for with regard to the disposal of surface water and if more adequate powers were available to local authorities to ensure the preservation of existing land drainage systems, open watercourses and the safeguarding of watercourses piped in by private owners, often at levels which are quite wrong and of capacities which are totally inadequate, an adequate system of surface water disposal could, in most cases, be preserved at an economic cost with the added advantage of retaining water on the land which, from an agricultural point of view, is not only desirable but a near necessity.

Shops Act, 1934

Routine visits have been made to shops in the area during the year and are shown in the tabular statement of inspections. The number of shops in the area is comparatively small and arrangements generally are reasonably good. No complaints have been received during the year. It has not been thought worth while to inaugurate any scheme of Clean Food Guilds.

Smoke Abatement

The industries in the area are all light industries, the only steam-producing plants being at the Tannery and Brewery, Huntington, and the Clifton Hospital. There have been no complaints during the year and no serious atmospheric pollution has been noted.

Schools

A schedule of the schools in the area is set out below, showing the approximate number of pupils, the water supply and sanitary accommodation.

No major works of improvement have been carried out during the year at any of the schools in the area. A piped water service is now available in every village where there is a County School and it is anticipated that a piped supply will be put into those schools still without such a service. Similarly, the provision of sewerage facilities in the parishes of Wigginton, Flaxton and Stockton-on-Forest will enable water closets to be installed in place of the existing pail closet accommodation.

School	Situation	No. of Pupils	Sanitary Accommodation	Water Supply
Canon A. R. Lee	Rawcliffe Lane,	260	Water-closets	York Water-
County Modern	Clifton Without		Lav. basins	works Co.
Clifton Jun. School	do.	500	do.	do.
C. of E. School,	Village Street,	30	Pail closets	Ryedale
Flaxton	Flaxton		Lav. basins	mains
County School,	Village Street,	23	Pail closets	Ryedale
Harton	Harton		wash bowls	mains
Haxby School	Front Street,	110	Water closets	York Water-
	Haxby		Lav. basins	works Co.
Huntington School	Strensall Road,	150	do.	do.
	Huntington			
J.R.V.T. Sen. Sch.	New Earswick	460	do.	do.
J.R.V.T. Jun. Sch.	New Earswick	280	do.	do.
Osbalwick School	Osbalwick	75	do.	do.
Sand Hutton	Sand Hutton	55	Pail closets	Ryedale
School			Wash bowls	mains
Skelton School ...	Skelton	60	Water Closets	York Water-
			Wash basins	works Co.
Stockton-on-Forest	Village Street,	47	Privy	do.
School	Stockton-on-		Lav. basins	
	Forest			
Strensall School ...	Strensall	105	Water closets	do.
			Lav. basins	
Warthill School ...	Warthill	30	Pail closets	Ryedale
			Wash basins	mains
Wigginton School	Mill Lane,	30	Pail closets	York Water-
	Wigginton		Lav. basins	works Co.

Factories Act, 1937

No new industries have been registered during the year under review. At the converted hangars at Rawcliffe a firm producing upholstery fillings closed down and their premises were taken over by the light engineering firm already operating in adjacent hangars.

The tannery at Huntington has been considerably extended and this has brought with it an increased problem with regard to the disposal of trade waste from the premises.

The Council were consulted as to proposed additional sanitary conveniences at a printing works in the area to cater for additional staff, and this improvement has been carried out.

Visits have been made to the various establishments in the area and they are set out in the table below in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Labour. No complaints have been received during the year with regard to factories or workplaces and no notices have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories.

FACTORIES

<i>Mechanical</i>				<i>Non-Mechanical</i>	
Bakery	...	...	3	Grease and dripping	
Brewery	...	...	1	extraction	3
Brick making	...	...	2		
Caravan construction	...	...	1		
Concrete block making	...	...	1		
Engineering works	...	...	1		
Firewood cutting	...	...	1		
Furniture manufacture	...	...	1		
Joinery	...	...	5		
Laundry	...	...	1		
Letterpress printing	...	...	1		
Motor vehicle repairs	...	...	10		
Paper baling	...	...	2		
Sawmills	...	...	2		
Scientific instruments	...	...	1		
Tanneries	...	...	2		
			—		
			35		3
			—		—
Outworkers...	...	...	19		

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>In-spections</i>	<i>Notices</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority ...	3	115	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	35	45	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Complaints

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	108
Number investigated	...	...	...	...	108
Number where action taken	...	...	...	...	91
Number where no action taken	...	...	...	...	17

Table of Notices Served

Notices served under the:—					<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	35	27
Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	113	4
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	3	—
Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	169	—

Tabular Statement of Inspections

Ashplaces and Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	67
Cesspools and Sewage Tanks	...	...	...	...	...	71
Closets—Water	...	...	...	...	...	17
Pail	...	...	...	...	...	16
Privies	...	...	...	...	...	5
Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	90
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies, Milkshops and Milk Stores	...	...	...	...	...	22
Drains—inspected	...	...	...	...	...	425
tested	...	...	...	...	...	399
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	160
Foodshops: Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	15
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	16
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	14
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	19
Ice-cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	16
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	7
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	145
Food inspections	...	...	...	...	...	10
Meat inspections	...	...	...	...	...	135
Housing: Houses—Repairable	...	...	...	...	...	120
Not repairable	...	...	...	...	...	10
Infectious disease investigation	...	...	...	...	...	26
Meetings, Interviews and Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	295
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	24
Offensive trade premises	...	...	...	...	...	155
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	11
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	...	...	28
Re-inspections—housing	...	...	...	...	...	58
nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	61
verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	2

Samples—Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Effluents	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Streets, Roads, Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Temporary Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Buildings—in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	783
Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Special Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Foundations	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
Completed—houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
other	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Contravention of Building Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Dykes and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	...	243
Dangerous Structures	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Land Surveys	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Sewage Disposal and Sewerage Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Temporary Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Council House Property	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,549
Petrol Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Post-war Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Refuse Collection and Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Town Planning	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Footpaths and Rights of Way	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Street Naming	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sewerage Survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Flooding	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Poliomyelitis Research	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Housing Act, 1949, Improvement Grant...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
TOTAL							6,565

HOUSING

The tabular statement below is set out in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health. Demolition Orders were made in respect of four properties during the year which were found to be unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost. Undertakings were accepted from the owners of six properties to carry out repairs and improvements to these properties to bring them up to the standard required by the Housing Act.

The Council have adopted the procedure of issuing six-monthly licences for the continued occupation of houses on which there is an operative demolition order, provided that they are occupied by persons to whom sub-standard conditions are not likely to be detrimental and that they are kept weatherproof.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	316
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	374
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses included in (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 to 1932	186
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	186
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to in (3) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	120

2. Remedy of Defects without service of formal notices:—

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or by their officers	113
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3. Action under Statutory Powers:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(ii) Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	4
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936 :—	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(ii) Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	3
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	4
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses demolished	...	...	Nil
(iii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	Nil
(iv) Number of underground rooms or tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the rooms having been rendered fit	...	...	Nil
(v) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertakings were given by owners to bring the properties to a standard in compliance with the Housing Act	...	...	6

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	No
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	record
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	34
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	130
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to abate the overcrowding	...	...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding which it is considered desirable to report	...	...	Nil

Overcrowding

We have no accurate information as to the position with regard to overcrowding in the area. We may glean some more detailed information when statistics collected in the Census are published. I have no reason to believe that any serious cases of overcrowding exist in the area and the average number of persons per dwelling-house of 3.81 is quite low. Generally speaking, where cases have occurred, application has been made to the Council for re-housing and accordingly in due course, and as far as possible, this has been alleviated.

There is a tendency for tenants of Council houses to press the local authority for permission to take in lodgers. This in some cases may result in limited overcrowding for such periods until re-housing of such lodgers can be provided for. It is difficult to obviate this without hardship upon the tenants in these days of continued shortage. Such cases are not included in 4(d) above.

Housing Act, 1949

During the year six applications for grant under the 1949 Housing Act were received. Of these the Council considered that four were suitable for grant and grants were, in fact, made. One cottage at Skelton, two at New Earswick and one at Haxby were improved during the year in consequence of grants made under the Act.

Mobile and Temporary Dwellings, Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

The problem of caravans continued to confront the Council during the year. The shortage of housing accommodation following the War has resulted in many people feeling that living in a caravan is preferable to living in rooms or with relatives and, whilst this may be a good means of achieving a certain amount of independence, the indiscriminate stationing of caravans throughout the countryside can result in considerable nuisance and annoyance.

The local authority does not appear to have sufficient power to control these temporary dwellings adequately and I feel again that I must reiterate the views I have previously expressed to the Council that the only satisfactory way of ensuring effective control is for the local authority to provide suitable sites, provided with good means of access, water supplies and drainage, and for applicants for licences to be offered a site to rent.

Single-bedroom Bungalows

The Council continued during 1951 with the construction of single-bedroom bungalows, primarily intended for widows and pensioners, and there is no doubt that their provision will relieve the overall housing shortage as well as providing a more compact and convenient home for the tenants during the later years of their lives.

Housing Programme

The number of houses allocated to the Council for 1951 was 80. Of these the Council proposed to build 50, 20 were offered to private individuals and 10 were offered to the Village Trust to be built for letting.

At the beginning of the year, 49 houses were under construction for the Council and 356 had been completed and occupied since the end of the War. These consisted of 265 traditional houses, 32 Airey houses, 50 Tarran temporary houses and nine converted Nissen huts. During the year contracts were let for a further 50 houses.

At the close of the year 44 houses had been completed and 55 were under construction, making a total of 392 completed houses.

Set out overleaf is a statement of the house-construction programme parish-by-parish.

Progress during the year was not so good as in previous years due in part to the Council's policy of building houses in small numbers in the outer parishes to cater for agricultural workers and to the delays associated with the purchase of land and the development of sites. Site works were commenced, however, in the parishes of Claxton, Gate Helmsley, Buttercrambe and Stockton-on-Forest, and houses were in course of erection on all these sites.

At Osabldwick the Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed the compulsory purchase order made by the Council on land required for development and work was commenced on four bungalows and four houses which could be served by existing services pending the construction of new sewers, water mains and roads.

At the end of 1951 new house designs were received from the Ministry for a more simple type of house, designed to cut the costs to as little as possible. As a counter to rising costs of labour and materials it is not disputed that modification of house design is possible, provided that it is not carried too far to the detriment of the good appearance of the houses. The designs were considered by the Council and adopted with minor modifications.

Summary of House Building Programme

Housing Site	Houses under construction on 1st Jan. 1951	Houses completed prior to 1st Jan. 1951	Further contracts let during 1951	Houses completed during 1951	Houses in course of erection on 31st Dec. 1951
North Moor, Huntington ...	6	127	2	6	2
Northfields, Strensall ...	4	63	6	4	6
Calf Close, Haxby ...	6	134	4	6	4
Brecks Fields, Skelton ...	19	17	12	16	15
Stone Riggs, Stockton-on-Forest ...	10	0	8	10	8
Green Hills, Claxton ...	2	0	2	0	4
Oak Views, Lilling ...	2	0	0	2	0
Rise Wood, Gate Helmsley	0	0	4	0	4
Stony Hills, Buttercrambe	0	0	4	0	4
The Leyes, Osbaldwick ...	0	0	8	0	8
Barney Cottages, Flaxton ...	0	6	0	0	0
TOTAL ...	49	347	50	44	55

Housing Allocations

Once again it is with regret that I have to report that the number of new applications for housing accommodation received during the year considerably exceeded the number of houses completed. 145 new applications were received and 44 families were re-housed, increasing the number of applications outstanding from 647 to 748. This figure will almost certainly include applications from persons who no longer require re-housing, e.g., those who have left the district or purchased a house, but who have not withdrawn their applications.

The table set out below shows the type and size of the families to whom the Council have allocated houses since the end of the War. As development proceeds in the more rural parishes it is anticipated that a fair proportion of the houses erected there will be allocated either to agricultural workers or to farmers requiring additional labour to work their farms.

The priority scheme for normal applicants on the list has continued to operate successfully and with little or no complaint. I feel that a tribute should be paid to the Council for their policy of dealing with all cases, other than the few exceptional cases, by case number and considering each on its merits in relation to all others on the list irrespective of parochial or other interests.

Table showing type and size of family to whom houses allocated

Size of Family Recorded	Ordinary Applicant			Agricultural Worker			Farmer requiring Ag. Worker			Single Bedrm. Bungalows (At present all let to aged people)		
	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951
Husband and Wife only ...	25	5	3	3	—	1	5	3	1	—	5	3
Husband, Wife and 1 child ...	113	19	13	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 2 children	59	20	4	6	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 3 children	25	7	6	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 4 children	10	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 5 children	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 6 children	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 7 children	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Husband, Wife and 9 children	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widow/spinster	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7
Widow and 1 child ...	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widow and 2 children ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widow and 3 children ...	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widow and 5 children ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widow and 6 children ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widower and 1 child ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	254	61	30	15	—	2	14	6	2	—	8	10

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

There are 11 retail purveyors of milk registered to sell milk in the Council's area. Almost all of these obtain milk already bottled from the larger dairies and act mainly as roundsmen for these concerns. Empty bottles are returned for sterilising at the suppliers.

Licences to retail milk under Special Designations were issued as follows—one to retail "Sterilised" milk, 11 to retail "Pasteurised" milk and nine to retail "T.T" milk.

There is in the area one licensed pasteurising plant, at Huntington, and this is supervised principally by the County authority. It is operated and maintained in a most satisfactory manner.

A sample of milk taken from a retailer in York was found to contain tubercle bacilli and the milk was traced to a herd in the Council's area. Samples were taken by the North Riding County Council from the herd and brucella abortus was also found. In view of this an order was made prohibiting the sale of raw milk and this order was only withdrawn when two suspected animals were removed from the herd.

Meat and Other Foods

The position with regard to slaughtering in the area remains unchanged. Two private slaughterhouses are licensed and these have required a considerable number of visits to deal with emergency slaughters of injured or fallen stock. There is no doubt that these two premises provide a very useful service, particularly for dealing with stock when the Government-controlled slaughterhouse in York is closed or unable to receive animals.

It has been possible during the year for drainage from one of these premises to be connected to the Council's sewer. This is more noteworthy because of the considerable length of new drain which had to be laid. Conditions, particularly at this slaughterhouse, are extremely good and, although conditions at the other are reasonably good, it is hoped that some improvements can be made there also in the near future.

As will be seen from the first table which is set out below in the form required by the Ministry of Health, many carcasses have been inspected and much good, sound meat saved.

The second table sets out the food shops in the area, the inspections made and the food condemned. Arrangements generally in the shops and stores are good and it has not been found necessary to take any action during the year against the occupiers.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

			Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed ...	...	...	25	79	8	14	4
All diseases except T.B.:—							
(1)	Whole carcase condemned		6	30	2	1	0
(2)	Part carcase or organ condemned ...	...	2	9	0	0	0
(3)	Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	...	32%	49%	25%	7%	0
Tuberculosis only:—							
(1)	Whole carcase condemned		4	10	0	0	0
(2)	Part carcase or organ condemned ...	...	0	4	0	0	0
(3)	Percentage affected with tuberculosis ...	...	16%	17%	0	0	0

Food Shops and Premises

Number in Area				Inspections made	
Bakehouses	...	...	...	3	15
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	3	16
Greengrocers and Grocers	...	...	...	28	31
Canteens and Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	7	7
Fish Shops	...	...	...	4	14

Food Condemned

Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Tinned Cooked Ham	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Apple Puree	...	...	...	2 tins
Sultanas	...	...	...	31 lbs.
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	19 tins

Ice Cream

Licences have been issued in respect of 16 shops for the sale of ice cream. In every case the ice cream is obtained ready manufactured and wrapped and is only retailed from the premises concerned. There are no premises for the manufacture of ice cream in the Council's area.

Food Poisoning

No cases or outbreaks of food poisoning were reported to the Council during the year.

BUILDING

A schedule is set out below showing the plans which have been deposited during the year. The bulk of house building is still being undertaken by the local authority, but there is a considerable increase in the number of plans deposited for alterations and private houses.

Plans were deposited for the following buildings:—

Dwelling-houses—Private Enterprise	27
—Local Authority	56
Alterations and extensions to dwelling-houses	116
Exempted buildings (greenhouses, etc.)	95
Agricultural buildings	35
Factory and business premises	18
Layouts	2

Plan Printing

Once again I have to report that we have been able during the year to produce a large number of prints of various drawings, layouts, site plans, etc. 278 prints of different sizes have, in fact, been produced.

There is no doubt that the purchase of the arc lamp and the construction of the printing frame, although rather primitive, has saved the Council a sum in excess of their cost.

Building Licensing

During 1951 the Council were again restricted to issuing licences to a total value equivalent to not more than 80% of the figure licensed in 1949. This has meant that the local authority, who in 1949 operated the Licensing Regulations strictly in conformity with the Ministry's circulars, may have a very low licensing ceiling whilst the local authority that took a more liberal view of the regulations in 1949 is able to do so in 1951.

Several investigations were undertaken during the year into possible contraventions of the regulations, but no proceedings took place. No special problems arose during the year to which I feel that attention should be drawn.

Access to the Countryside Act

The preparation of maps showing existing rights of way which are claimed to be public footpaths appears to be proceeding very slowly. The scheme of the County Council to submit maps of each parish in the County Districts to be forwarded to the Parish Councils for consideration and marking of rights of way which are known to exist with a duplicate copy of the plan to be marked by the District Council and returned to the County Hall for consolidation, verification and adoption certainly puts into the hands of the people themselves the preservation of their rights of way.

Some Parish Councils have dealt with their maps very quickly and very efficiently, but in other cases the Parish Councils are proving to be slow in returning them.

It is a difficult problem, as the owners of land, fearing with some justification damage to their property by public access across their lands, are not interested in its preservation, but the public at large, of whom it may be true to say are lovers of the countryside, would lose an inestimable privilege, which they mostly very much appreciate, if these means of access into the countryside are to be lost.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

Early in the year the Council appointed a full-time Rodent Operative and were fortunate in securing the services of a very experienced man.

Inspections and treatments were carried out at all types of property and the actual cost of the man's time and any materials used, plus an addition of 10% for administration, was charged. In this way it was found that the charges worked out very reasonably and all occupiers of property seemed satisfied.

It was not found necessary to serve any statutory notice during the year.

Poliomyelitis Research

During the year the Medical Research Council carried out a scheme of research into the disease Poliomyelitis in certain counties throughout the country. In each county a number of parishes were chosen, one half where cases of the disease had occurred, the other half where no cases had occurred during the preceding three years.

The parish of Osbaldwick in this Council's area was chosen as one of these "controls".

Cotton swabs were inserted in drain and sewer manholes at 30 different points and allowed to remain for 48 hours. They were then removed and placed in sealed glass jars and forwarded to the laboratory of the Research Council for examination. This procedure was repeated six weeks later.

